

*See also 1918-1919 for July 1918*

# *The RALLY*

*A Scouting Magazine for the American Girl*

Volume I, Number 11

AUGUST, 1918

TEN CENTS A COPY  
ONE DOLLAR A YEAR



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*Home War Work Number*

# How Are You Helping? Are You Saving Wheat For Our Allies?



U. S. Food Administration.

Br'er Tater ain't skeerin' up a ghos' wen he say we alls mus' eat less wheat en less meat en save all de fat en sugar we kin. We has jist got ter feed dat big army er fightin' sojer boys, en we kin do hit by eatin' right smart mo' taters en garden sass en eatin' mo' fish en game 'stid er pork and beef. Ef we al's don't gin ter feed dem sojers right now we'll be feedin' somebody 'fo' long en it won't be us.

## United States Food Administration

# SOLVING UNCLE SAM'S FOOD PROBLEM

## Mrs. HERBERT C. HOOVER

Lou Henry Hoover was born in Waterloo, Iowa. When she was a very little girl her family moved to California, so that she is connected with that State by herself and her friends. She went through the public schools of California, and later received the degree of Bachelor of Arts at Stanford University, where she took the course in Geology and Mining.

"Lou Henry," as she is still called by so many of her old friends, has always been very much of a scout, as many California girls are. From the time she was a very little girl she has been accustomed to going on long hunting and fishing trips with her father. They would spend many nights out in the open, without tents, as long, dry summers of California permit, so that much of the lore of scouts she has put into actual practice.

After graduating from Stanford, she married Herbert Hoover, a young mining engineer, who had had three years' practice in his profession, having graduated from Stanford when Lou Henry was a freshman. The day after they were married, they sailed for China, where they spent three years, largely in exploring the country. They were there during the Boxer Rebellion, and spent thirty days under almost



GIRL SCOUTS TENDING WAR GARDENS UNDER DIRECTION OF MRS. HOOVER. Mrs. Hoover is the National Vice-President, and the Acting Commissioner in Washington, of the Girl Scouts. She is heartily in sympathy with all of the work of the girls and frequently encourages them in their Food Conservation efforts by working with them, as shown here.

constant shell fire watching hand to hand fighting between the Chinese and their own little garrison of white defenders. There she had much practical hospital and rationing experience, as they were short of food stuffs.

After the Chinese experience, Mr. Hoover's profession took them to many strange countries in many parts of the world. So that Mrs. Hoover knows Australia, New Zealand, Burma, Japan and many other interesting lands. As their home is

in California, and they seldom fail to get there once a year, and Mr. Hoover's main office has been in London, you can see that this meant thousands of miles traveling every year. When war broke out Mrs. Hoover was in England and it was necessary for her to cross the Atlantic many times during the early part of the war.

She has seen much of the Girl Guides in England and the Girl Scouts in the United States, and of the Boy Scouts all over the world.

## Potatoes to the Rescue

United States Food Administration

**W**E must send wheat to the Allies. That fact stands out above all others. It can be neither ignored nor denied. *Wheat must be sent.* All that is left us is to determine how to do it. Not how to do it from the viewpoint of the shipper alone, but how to do it from the standpoint of our own kitchens and dining rooms.

It is impossible to talk too much about saving wheat or about what to use in its stead. There must be something that we can eat in place of meat, something that would satisfy us as much as bread. There is such a thing, the Irish potato.

One of the best practical substitutes in the world for a slice of bread

is a potato. Try this experiment: Instead of eating a slice of bread and a potato, eat two potatoes. Is it not just as satisfying? There is a reason for this.

The chief value of bread lies in its starch content. The same amount of starch is furnished by one potato as by one slice of bread. To be perfectly fair, there is more body-building material in a slice of bread than in a potato. But, again, the body material contained in the potato is a very high powered sort of body-building material, twice as valuable as the kind found in the bread. The salts of the potato are valuable in building body tissues.

The two growth determinants are found in potatoes, so that in winter, when vegetable foods may be hard

to obtain, nobody should neglect the potato part of his meals.

The potato crop last year was estimated to be 467 million bushels, about five bushels apiece for every man, woman and child. Five bushels of a very valuable food are yours at a reasonable cost, to help you save the wheat that must be shipped.

If potatoes are so valuable and we have so many of them, why don't we ship them "over there"?

Because potatoes are a perishable product, and because this is true, we must eat them now while they are in good condition. They also take up a great deal of valuable shipping space.

But though you may be convinced that you should use potatoes generously, from the standpoint of win-



ning the war it will be in vain, as was said in the beginning, unless you are now persuaded to use them instead of wheat, unless you are definitely going to put them in your diet in place of wheat.

How can this be done? One way is, of course, by using them in bread to replace part of the wheat flour. Those Americans who remember Civil War days will tell you that they went through all this long ago. "Why, I can remember how we used to cook up potatoes and put them into the bread to make it go farther, and it was mighty good bread, too," they will tell you.

The following recipe for Victory Bread in which part of the flour has been replaced by potatoes, is one of the recipes sent out by the United States Food Administration. It can be made into loaves or rolls as desired. The resulting product is white, moist and delicious, and contains an added food value in the mineral salts and growth determinants of the potato.

#### POTATO YEAST BREAD

One or 2 cakes compressed yeast, 1 cup lukewarm water, 4 teaspoons salt, 3 tablespoons corn syrup,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cups mashed potatoes, 7 cups flour (more or less may be needed). Mix as follows: Soften the yeast in the liquid and then add (1) salt, (2) syrup, (3) potato, and (4) enough of the flour to make a stiff dough. Mix and knead thoroughly. Let rise  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours, or until double in bulk. Knead or cut down the dough, add the remaining flour; and let rise again until double in bulk (about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours). Shape into loaves. Let rise in pans until double in bulk. Bake 50 minutes to 1 hour.

In quickbreads potatoes can be used with flour in proportions varying from one-third to one-half.

#### POTATO BISCUIT

One cup flour, 4 teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt, 2 tablespoons fat, 1 cup mashed potato,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water or milk (about). Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Work in the fat with fork or knife. Add potato and mix thoroughly. Then add enough liquid to make a soft dough. Roll the dough lightly to about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in thickness. Cut into biscuits and bake 12 to 15 minutes in hot oven.

#### POTATO MUFFINS

Four tablespoons fat, 2 tablespoons sugar, 1 egg, 1 cup mashed potato, 2 cups flour, 3 teaspoons baking powder,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt, 1 cup milk. Cream the fat and sugar. Add the egg well beaten, then the potato. Mix thoroughly. Sift flour,

baking powder and salt. Add milk and flour alternately. Bake in greased muffin tins 25 to 30 minutes.

Potatoes make good griddle cakes, and may be used as part of the flour in cakes.

#### U. S. FOOD ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON

June 13, 1918

My dear Mrs. Low:

The work accomplished by the Girl Scouts last year in production of vegetables from home gardens, and in picking, canning, preserving and drying of fruit and vegetables, has been of material benefit in solving the problem of food distribution.

This year, with the increasingly larger problem of supplying food to our armies, and to the civilian population of the Allies and America, I trust that the Girl Scouts will continue their efforts in production and conservation of food stuffs. The organization affords an opportunity for its members to further their assistance in this problem, upon which the future of the war largely depends, by spreading the knowledge of how the food shortage can be met amongst their families and friends. If in doing this all the Girl Scouts in the country could secure the cooperation of all the members of their families, and of all the friends they can influence, there would be enough food saved to feed a large army.

Girl Scouts can be a big factor in assisting in the work of the Food Administration, and I am glad to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of their excellent work.

Faithfully yours,

(signed) HERBERT HOOVER

#### POTATO SOUFFLE

Four cups hot mashed potato, 1 tablespoon melted fat, 2 tablespoons milk, 1 teaspoon salt,  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon pepper, yolks of eggs, whites of 2 eggs, beaten stiff. Mix all but the whites of the eggs in the order given; beat thoroughly, fold in the stiffly beaten whites, pile in a baking dish and cook until the mixture puffs and is brown on the top.

#### CHOCOLATE POTATO CAKE

One-half cup fat, 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs, slightly beaten,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup mashed potato,  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon salt, 1 cup flour, 1 teaspoon baking powder,  $\frac{3}{8}$  cup milk,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup grated chocolate (melted over hot water). Cream fat and sugar. Add eggs and potato. Add the flour, mixed with the baking powder and salt, alternately with the milk. Add the chocolate last. Bake in layers or muffin tins.

But all these recipes have used only *part* potatoes. Why can't we eat things made of all potato and make our efforts to save wheat doubly effective? We can eat baked potatoes, boiled potatoes, mashed potatoes, riced potatoes, hashed brown

potatoes, and forget all about bread. Or we can make some of the following dishes and do the same thing.

#### STUFFED POTATOES

Select medium-sized, smooth-skinned oval potatoes. Bake in a hot oven until tender, being careful not to over-brown the skin. Cut the potatoes in two, lengthwise, remove the potato pulp, being careful to leave shells unbroken. Mash the hot potato, add either milk or cream as for mashed potato. Season as follows: To each cup of potato add  $\frac{1}{2}$  saltspoon salt and  $\frac{1}{8}$  saltspoon of pepper. Fill the shells with this mixture, rounding the surface so that it is the shape of the original potato. Bake for 10 minutes in a hot oven.

#### POTATO O'BRIEN

One tablespoon fat, 1 tablespoon flour,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup skimmed milk, 1 teaspoon salt,  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon pepper, 2 cups diced cooked potatoes, 1 green pepper, cooked and chopped,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup grated American cheese. Make the sauce, using the fat, flour, milk and seasoning. Mix the potato and the green pepper with white sauce and cheese. Put in a baking dish and brown in a hot oven. Note: Canned red pepper can be used in place of green pepper.

#### PITTSBURG POTATOES

One quart potato cut in cubes, 1 onion,  $\frac{1}{2}$  can pimentos, 2 cups white sauce,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound milk cheese,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt. Cook potato cubes and onion finely chopped in boiling salted water 5 minutes. Add pimentos cut in small pieces and cook 7 minutes; then drain. Turn into oiled baking dish and pour over white sauce mixed with cheese and salt. Bake in moderate oven until potatoes are soft.

#### SHEPHERD'S PIE

Two cups cooked flaked fish, 1 tablespoon fat, 1 tablespoon flour,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt,  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon pepper, 1 cup soup broth (beef), 2 cups mashed potato. Put diced or flaked fish in baking dish. Add sauce made of the fat, flour, seasoning and broth. Cover top with mashed potato, brush with fat or cream and brown in a hot oven.

Potatoes certainly offer us something with infinite variety of preparations as a substitute for wheat. Hardly any community is without them. In fact they are so plentiful in some states that a special dispensation has been granted whereby one pound of wheat flour may be sold with four pounds of potatoes, a temporary interpretation of the "50-50" order.

# The SURGEON GENERAL'S LITTLE ARMY

Every Member of it is a Girl Scout

**I**N the July RALLY mention was made of the Girl Scouts in Washington, who have been formally sworn in for Messenger work in the War Department. In the *Washington Star* for July 15th, there is a fuller account of this work as follows:

There is a little "army" in Washington today, the only one of its kind, made up of forty-six polite, efficient and pretty Girl Scouts. Moreover it has another unique distinction—it is perhaps the only military group of its size in the world that has a major general in command.

The commanding officer in this case is Surgeon General William C. Gorgas. And the "army" was gotten together under his direction four weeks ago to take over the messenger service in his office, as part of a general policy of freeing men for more essential war work.

About a month ago the messenger situation was causing some difficulty in the surgeon general's office. Then Capt. Ralph H. Jones hit upon the bright idea of using Girl Scouts, which would clear up the situation and at the same time relieve manpower.

The civil service rules, strictly interpreted, at first appeared as a barrier to the girls serving. Capt. Jones immediately entered into consultation with Mrs. Coleman, chief of the Girl Scout movement in the District, and also with Mrs. Herbert C. Hoover.

The latter two enthusiastically seconded the idea and prevailed upon civil service officials to consent to the girls serving, and within a day or two eager Girl Scouts began

trooping into the surgeon general's office, insistent upon becoming "real soldiers" and serving their country.

## CAPT. JONES TAKES CHARGE

Soon the "army" grew to appreciable size. Capt. Jones was placed in immediate charge. However, the strictest bars were set up to keep the new "army" on the highest possible level, both mentally and physically.

Every effort was made to attract applicants who had graduated from high school, or at least from grammar school. And before acceptance each girl was examined by Dr. Kate B. Karpeles, contract surgeon, attached to the surgeon general's office. The physical standard required was the same as that for recruits.

During the course of these examinations seven girls were turned away, much to their sorrow. But the rigid test had disclosed physical infirmities which school examiners had passed over or not noticed. One or two of these cases were of a serious nature. The girls' parents will be forever grateful for having had the defects pointed out. Medical officers have since been treating them, and when they are fully recovered the girls look forward to becoming active members of the "army."

## MORNING OPENS WITH DRILL

Not only is the "army" efficient, courteous and good to look at, but it is also soldierly. There is a reason for this—five mornings a week the girls drill from 8 to 9 a. m.

Capt. Jones directs this phase of their training and the girls assert that it would be impossible to find a better detachment commander. They have learned that he has grown up with the Army, having served in all capacities and ranks. The actual

drill masters are Sergts. Proctor and Patello, who also know their business from long training in camp.

Miss Marie M. Marks of the S. G. O. also drills with the girls. She was first appointed their chaperon and since has been made a captain in the national organization of Girl Scouts. She wears the regulation uniform of the girls themselves.

First thing in the morning, after the girls fall in and the roll is called, the scouts are given setting-up exercises, the same as the real soldiers in camp get. After a month of this, it is freely rumored that not a few of them have added awful numbers of pounds to slim little waists and several inches to their height. Following these exercises there is a drill in foot movements, and the morning concludes with instruction in the school of the soldier.

## COURTESIES EXCHANGED

The medical officers in the surgeon general's office has learned to have a wholesome regard for these little soldiers. Their entire bearing has demanded it. They never approach an officer with a memorandum or stop at his desk to deliver papers without coming to attention. This courtesy is always promptly and willingly returned.

If a Girl Scout meets an officer outside the surgeon general's office she salutes in true military fashion, and the courtesy of the salute is returned. The petite warriors wear their uniform, the customary scout garb, both when they are on and off duty. They have learned to look upon it with added respect and reverence, since clad in it they are doing their "soldiering" in this war.

## SCOUTS' YANKEE DOODLE

Tune—"Yankee Doodle"

The stars and stripes and bugle call,  
They could not be resisted—  
We simply had to do our bit,  
And so we all enlisted.  
Yankee Doodle, keep it up,  
Yankee Doodle dandy,  
The Scouts will help you if they can  
In any way that's handy.

Some make bandages galore,  
And cook with stove and fireless—  
Others join the wig wag corps  
And are doing stunts with wireless.

Yankee Doodle, bless their hearts,  
Yankee Doodle dandy,  
The Scouts will help you if they can,  
So willing and so handy.

## A CALL TO SERVICE

An inspiring message to Girl Scouts is found in the following verses written by Miriam Hotchkiss Raymond, captain of Troop No. 5, Buffalo, N. Y.:  
While the battle rages yonder,  
And our men go forth to war,  
Girl Scouts, let us stop and ponder  
Over things unthought before.

Are we strong and true and loyal,  
As the nation's crisis nears?  
Are we pure and fit for service,  
Free from self and foolish fears?

Can we call in silent forces,  
Overcome our petty thought  
And stand up for God and country,  
Fight as we have never fought?

Boys in blue and boys in khaki,  
Who are now across the sea,  
Need just what Girl Scouts can give  
them—  
Need our strength and loyalty.

# The RALLY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY  
National Headquarters Girl Scouts  
Incorporated  
527 Fifth Avenue, New York



Officers, National Headquarters Girl Scouts, Inc.

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## THE NEW RALLY

The very first thing you are going to notice, of course, is that the RALLY has been changed! It is larger, and there are other differences, too. Perhaps you can guess why this has happened, and if you guess correctly the answer will make you very glad, for the change in the RALLY is due to a reason much bigger than the magazine, itself—the whole Girl Scout movement.

When the first issue of the RALLY was published in October, 1917, there were, altogether, 12,812 Girl Scouts; today there are 27,195 registered! Think what that means—in less than a year our membership has more than doubled. Over fifteen hundred girls every month have taken the Girl Scout pledges, have promised to be loyal and helpful and true.

With all this going on the RALLY began to feel that it was lagging behind, that if it did not want to lose step with the splendid movement it represented, it must reform. And so you have here the beginning of its reformation. It is only a beginning, for in time we hope there will be many other changes. Best of all, you are to be allowed to guide these steps forward, for we want every Girl Scout to feel that this is her *very own magazine*, that it stands for the things that mean most to her.

We want you to have a real share in the making of the magazine too,

and for that reason we are going to set aside a special department for your contributions. The writers, the artists, the girls with cameras will all have a chance.

If you like these changes in the RALLY, help us by telling other people what a fine magazine we are going to become. If you don't like them, write and tell us why, for we won't mind being criticized, if the criticism helps us to become, in the end, the finest sort of a Girl Scout magazine.

## WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE IN THE RALLY?

Here is your chance to tell us just exactly what you would like to find in the RALLY when it comes to you every month. Have you ever said, "Oh, I wish the RALLY had short stories, or serials"—or "If there were only more photographs in the RALLY, how much better I would like it!" Maybe it was more troop news you wanted, or more letters from other Scouts. Anyway, the editors want to hear your wishes, and, if possible, they are going to make some of them come true.

Won't you sit down today and write a nice letter telling us just what the RALLY needs to make it your favorite magazine?

The three letters which seem to us to have the best and most practical suggestions we shall publish in the September RALLY. The letters must not be over 300 words long, and they must be in the Editor's hands before August 20th.

Mrs. Josephine Daskam Bacon's interest in girls is shown in many ways. The first proof of it is her story in this number of the RALLY; the second is the fact of her enthusiastic willingness to help make the magazine what it ought to be—the best girls' paper in the country; the third is her uniform, which shows you that she is a Girl Scout Captain and a Local Commissioner.

## PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED

Every Girl Scout with a camera has been awfully busy this summer, we're sure, for there have been so many splendid Scout pictures to take. There have been scouts in camp and scouts doing Red Cross work; scouts taking part in Food Conservation Exhibits and scouts helping busy mothers in homes; scouts—but we could go on indefinitely, for every one who knows the Girl Scouts at all knows that they have had a finger—not to say a whole helping hand—in pretty nearly every kind of worth-while work.

As to the pictures, there must be some fine ones, and the Editors would like to see them. Haven't you got a good one that might be called "Scout Spirit"? That's a broad subject and we'd like to have ever so many different interpretations of it.

We will use the best of the photographs submitted in the RALLY, some in September, others from time to time. Do not send in any pictures that are not perfectly clear, for no matter how good the subject may be we cannot reproduce a dark picture for use in the magazine.

If you will send a three-cent stamp with your photographs we will return them to you if we find we cannot use them. All photographs must be in the Editors' hands by August 20th. Address Editor, THE RALLY, National Headquarters, Girl Scouts, 527 Fifth Avenue, New York City.



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Mrs. Louise Paine Benjamin (to the right) is the daughter of Albert Bigelow Paine, the well-known writer and biographer of Mark Twain. Her experience on the editorial staff of the *Woman's Home Companion*, one of the most popular magazines in the country, guarantees her appreciation of girls' needs and interests.

Miss Ruth Bowman (to the left) began her editorial work on the RALLY under Mrs. Springer, its first editor, and has worked loyally for it since the first number. She is in close touch with all the work of the office, and gets the first reading of all the girls' questions, criticisms and contributions.



## A GOOD WORD

Dear Dr. Leland:

It has been my intention ever since our return from the recent Convention in Philadelphia to write to you and express my keen appreciation of the excellent work done by one of your troops in Philadelphia at the time we were there.

We had one of the largest conventions ever held. The day that we opened our headquarters a Scout Captain telephoned and asked if her troop could be of any help. I assured her that they certainly could be of great help in running errands and doing odd jobs, and from the time school closed there were never less than four at Headquarters. The girls were exceedingly intelligent and were willing to do anything from a very stupid clerical job of writing in one name in several hundred copies of a list, to acting as ushers at the Convention. Once or twice it was thought that we would probably need a dozen girls, and they seemed to come through the floor, so quick was their response. In these particular cases I was especially pleased with their work as it meant getting an added group together very quickly, keeping them waiting some time, and finally not needing them. Their quick response, patience and courtesy while waiting, and utter lack of peevishness when it was found that their waiting had been in vain, proved to me how very valuable is an organization which teaches military discipline to young girls.

Yours very cordially,

OLIVE C. WHITIN,  
Office Manager, League to  
Enforce Peace.

The following anthem was written especially for Girl Scouts of Minneapolis and was sung at exercises given by them. The music used was the processional "Eucharistica" from the Episcopal Hymnal.

## FORWARD

Forward, forward, through the darkness,

Toward the light, Faith guides us on.  
Though the powers of evil assail us  
Yet God bids us still be strong.  
See the nations, heart-sick, weary,  
Turn to us, new source of strength;  
Stand America, nor fail them,  
Haste the world's true peace at length.

Out of anguish, out of suffering  
Comes the message strong and clear  
"I am with you, oh, my children,  
To the end, have you no fear."  
Let us give our lives, our treasure,  
In the noble cause of right,  
God has giv'n fullest measure,  
Rise we valiant through His Might.

We are coming, we are coming,  
Now at last we hear the call.  
Like a mighty host advancing  
To our brothers held in thrall.  
From our hills and valleys streaming  
O'er the ocean's hidden grave  
Spirit answers unto Spirit,  
Brave heart answers unto brave.

—Elizabeth Carse.

## GOLDEN EAGLETS

Two more names have been added to the list of Golden Eaglets; those of Mrs. S. D. Weirick, Lebanon, Pa., and Miss Etta N. Milliken, Newark, N. J. This makes eight Golden Eaglets in all.

## AN APPRECIATION

The RALLY wishes to express its appreciation of the good work and sincere interest of Mrs. Elsie Williams, who, as acting Editor, carried the magazine over the period between Mrs. Springer's resignation and Mrs. Benjamin's entrance into the office. Mrs. Williams, though able to give only part time to the work, felt a real responsibility for the problems of the RALLY and helped loyally through a difficult stage of the magazine.

## A GREETING FROM OVER-SEAS

Every Girl Scout in the country will rejoice to know of the Fourth of July greeting which came to us from the Girl Guides in England. Due to a delay the cable arrived on the French National Day, July 14th, instead of our own, so that it really carried a double message: It read:

*Cordial Greetings from your sisters the British Girl Guides on your National Day.*—Baden Powell.

As all scouts know the relationship between the Girl Guides and the Girl Scouts is very close.

Many of you are now in close correspondence with the Girl Guides. I have received several enthusiastic letters from you telling me how much it means to you to get news from over there. As one Girl Scout expressed it, those little Guides are standing like soldiers helping to bear the burdens of the war.

A word from the Chief Scout is always inspiring; and will make you all the more keen to work with our allies for a victorious peace.

JULIETTE LOW.

## The RALLY

### A REQUEST AND WHAT CAME OF IT

In February, 1918, there appeared in the RALLY an Editorial Announcement, as follows:

"The Executive Board voted to set aside the whole month of May as a great field day for Girl Scouts. Every troop is asked to begin now to make plans for a nation-wide Girl Scout demonstration to raise funds to carry the message of scouting the whole length and breadth of the land.

"The Executive Board requests every troop to give, some time during the month of May, an entertainment for this express purpose, the extension of scouting for girls. It does not ask that the whole sum raised should be administered by National Headquarters, though naturally Headquarters has greater opportunities and more calls for this work than any single troop, or any single Local Council. The committee asks that one-fourth of the profits of these May entertainments should be sent to Headquarters for national work, and the remaining three-fourths be devoted to local purposes, preferably to the extension of scouting."

Not a very big request, but what splendid results it has brought from scouts all over the country, whose loyalty to the cause has made them anxious to support it to the utmost. Nor were efforts confined to any one month by any means. Contributions are still coming in steadily. Perhaps every Girl Scout is secretly so sorry for all the girls that aren't scouts that she wants to do everything she can to push the work forward and increase the happy number.

In addition to the money contributed by troops a number of Local Councils agreed to send to National Headquarters from 10 to 25 per cent of the amount raised in any campaign or special drive for funds.

A list of all contributions received follows. The small sums have been received just as appreciatively as the larger ones, for we know that each donation represents earnest effort and real enthusiasm for the movement on the part of the givers.

#### FEBRUARY

Oak Troop, Brookline, Mass.	5.00
Golden Rod, New Bedford, Mass.	14.00
Red Rose, New Bedford, Mass.	36.00
Troop 28, Washington, D.C.	1.00
	<hr/>
	\$56.00

#### APRIL

Red Rose Troop (Belton, S. C.)	\$5.00
Philadelphia Council	200.00
Pansy Troop, Pleasantville	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$210.00

#### MAY

New Bedford Council	\$40.00
Thistle Troop, Baltimore	4.50
Troop No. 1, Cheshire, Conn.	7.00
Forget-me-not Troop, Dobbs Ferry	5.00
Troop No. 48, Manhattan	5.75
Troop No. 70, Manhattan	3.44
Troops, Nos. 1, 2, Middleborough, Mass.	10.45
Forget-me-not Troop, Mt. Kisco, N. Y.	40.00
Clover Troop, New Bedford, Mass.	5.00
Lily-of-the-Valley Troop, New Bedford, Mass.	3.00
Sunflower Troop No. 1, Newton, Mass.	6.00
Lily-of-the-Valley Troop No. 11, Phila., Pa.	3.00
Red Rose Troop, New Bedford, Mass.	10.00
	<hr/>
	\$143.14

#### JUNE

Buffalo Council of Girl Scouts	\$25.00
Minneapolis Council of Girl Scouts	21.97
Winchester Council of Girl Scouts	19.15
Goldenrod Troop No. 3, Cambridge, Mass.	5.00
Troop No. 15, Cincinnati, O.	20.00
Troop No. 17, Cincinnati, O.	2.50
Troop No. 18, Cincinnati, O.	4.00
Lily-of-the-Valley, Troop No. 2, Hartford	3.50
Red Clover Troop, Holbrook, Mass.	5.00
Pansy Troop No. 1 of Pleasantville, N. Y., and Daisy Troop No. 1 of Chappaqua, N. Y.	18.00
Forget-me-not Troop No. 2, Portsmouth, Ohio	3.00
Troop No. 3 and Wildrose Troop No. 2, Reading, Mass.	5.60
Troop No. 5, Richmond, Va.	10.00
	<hr/>
	\$142.72

#### JULY 1 TO 17

Boston Council of Girl Scouts	\$682.43
Colorado Springs Council	68.50
Hingham Council of Girl Scouts	17.50
Millis Council of Girl Scouts	13.50
Birch, Oak, and Cedar Troops, Bridgewater, Mass.	4.00
Troop No. 8, Cincinnati, O.	3.00
Troop No. 31, New York, N. Y.	1.25

Troop No. 35, New York, N. Y.	2.13
Clover Leaf Troop, Youngs town, N. Y.	6.00
Troop No. 62, New York, N. Y.	1.25
Thistle Troop, Mt. Kisco, N. Y.	152.20
Brookline Council, Brookline, Mass.	303.73
	<hr/>
	\$1,255.49

The three letters printed below accompanied contributions. If you are looking for ideas for your own entertainment perhaps you will find them here.

"It is with pleasure that the Forget-me-not Troop of Mt. Kisco are able to enclose their check for \$40, their share in the fund for Headquarters. It was earned by engaging the playhouse for a Mary Pickford moving picture — "The Poor Little Rich Girl."

"The girls gave a demonstration of signaling a thanks and welcome on the platform before the feature was put on, and were much applauded.

"The enclosed check is to extend scouting for Girls. It comes from Troop 3 and Wildrose Troop No. 2, of Reading, Massachusetts.

"On May 29th we held a very successful demonstration at the High School.

"An informal dance was held afterward, to which many of the Boy Scouts came, and a hat was placed on the piano, and the \$5.60 was received in the hat."

"Troop No. 11 of Philadelphia (Lily-of-the-Valley Troop), gave a humorous lecture for the advancement of the Scout movement. After paying the printer and the lecturer we cleared about \$12.00.

"Enclosed you will find \$3.00 to use as you see fit to introduce the Scout Movement to girls who know nothing of it now. We are planning to use the rest for the same purpose. The plan may interest you.

"We are going to send invitations to the girls of our community of the Scout age, for a hike. On the hike we are to demonstrate various Scout activities. The invitations read like this:

"Come on, girls, and hit the pike, At 1 p. m., for a good old hike; Wear a middy and bring a stick To the M. E. Church! Come double quick, On June the eighth, next Saturday, heed And bring five cents for a good old feed."



# SCRIBES' CORNER—A PAGE of SCOUT LETTERS

Letters from You, for You and about You

## ATTICA, NEW YORK

July 17th, we had a Lawn Party and Ice Cream Social, and cleared \$78.40. We are still cheering, we are so delighted. The scouts worked hard before the party, and at it, too, waiting on tables. It was such a pleasant evening, the weather man was on our side. The band plays every two weeks, Wednesday evenings, and the band stand is on the lawn that we used. We had the grounds decorated with the American flag and flags of our Allies, flower girls selling flowers, donated, little boys dressed as peasants of our Allies selling salted peanuts and a fortune telling tent with one of the scouts' mothers dressed as a gypsy. The fathers of the girls dished out the cream and the mothers dressed as Red Cross nurses supervised the tables and acted as hostesses, and the scouts in uniform acted as waitresses. Remembering this is a small town of 2,000 population, you can see \$78.40 meant something.

My girls have only been organized since the 15th of last March, and during the first week or ten days raised \$69 and some odd cents for a Service Flag for Attica, 137 stars then (59 more now added). The following week we gave a Knitting Social, serving cocoa and wafers; silver offering, cleared \$13.75; a Pageant of Soldiers, Nurses, Patriotic subjects, netted \$50.00 for Home Defense Equipment.

The Odd Fellows Lodge asked us to offer a few tableaux of patriotic subjects and because of them the collection for the Red Cross was \$22.00 after they had already paid 35 cents for admission to the hall.

After the Service Flag was bought there was \$16.16 left over, and the scouts handed it to the Red Cross, so you see in a little over four months what the girls have done.

C. L. S., Captain.

## HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Oak Troop No. 7 of Hartford, Connecticut, has evidently determined not to be outdone. The variety of their activities is shown by the following extracts from letters of thanks which they have received:

"The children's clothing which you sent to the French rooms is going to be a great comfort and happiness to some little French children. The clothing was very nice and in such good repair that it was a pleas-

ure to unpack your box. Won't you please extend to the generous children who sent those garments the very sincere thanks of our "France and her Allies Committee." Please tell them how very much the Committee appreciate their generous donation. We will send those articles abroad in a few days now and know many little French children (and big French children!) who will be much happier because of those nice clothes.

"FRANCE AND HER ALLIES  
COMMITTEE."

"I desire to gratefully acknowledge the receipt of a large box of gun wipes, some books and playing cards which were forwarded by you through the courtesy of your Troop of Girl Scouts.

"It is very pleasing to have the assurance, as indicated by your gifts, that the people at home are keenly interested in our soldiers' welfare and are doing everything in their power to add to their comfort and enjoyment.

The various things that were forwarded in your large box were duly appreciated, and, in addition, they were all articles that were very much needed by the men. It was a very thoughtful as well as a splendid thing to do, for your troop of Girl Scouts to send this box to us, and I would like to have everyone of them know that their efforts are greatly appreciated. I wish it might be possible to thank each one separately, but I am afraid I will have to rely on you to see that our feelings are duly expressed.

"CAPTAIN P—, *Camp Devens.*"

"I am writing to tell you how very much we appreciated the work of the three girl scouts, who served the Food Administration so faithfully Friday afternoon and all day Saturday.

"Their work was splendidly done and with so much enthusiasm and perseverance. One of the men at the office noticing they did not leave the office when the rest of us were leaving, asked them if they were being paid by the hour, whereupon they proudly replied that they were working for nothing.

"If these girls typify the spirit of Girl Scouts I guess there will be no doubt of the success of this organization.

"OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES  
FOOD ADMINISTRATION, HARTFORD."

## ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

You have not heard from "Poppy Troop, Girl Scouts, Altoona, for several months, but they have certainly been as busy as bees, just the same. The following report shows just a few of their activities:

They distributed all the Food Conservation Posters, miscellaneous Government posters, and the "The Eyes of the Navy," "Beware of the Spy," etc. They pasted three thousand stickers of the Third Liberty Loan on the windshields of automobiles and trucks, and distributed all the literature and posters of the Third Liberty Loan.

The Troop had the place of honor in the great patriotic parade and demonstration on our first War Anniversary. They were selected as the Guard of Honor for the Chief Yeoman in the Navy Recruiting Rally held here. As Captain, I feel very proud of receiving a personal letter of appreciation of the Girls' work from Chief Yeoman Wheelock.

Last Friday night "Poppy Troop" headed the parade for the Army Recruiting Rally. Through the rain we marched to the "Classification Yards" of the greatest railroad in the world to assist in the Flag Raising ceremonies on Flag Day.

By giving up candy, chewing gum, "movies," etc., the girls saved up twenty dollars, which I forwarded to the Belgian Minister for the Belgian soldiers' tobacco fund.

M. M., Captain.

## IOWA CITY, IOWA

Our troop of sixteen girls (Violet Troop I, Iowa City, Iowa), now registers ten second class scouts. We have just completed making our uniforms. Each girl made all her own uniform without the help of anyone except her captain. Most of the girls earned all the money to buy the materials. We decided to make the uniforms ourselves since we could save about half the cost and thus help Uncle Sam more.

We have a troop garden planted in onions and beans which is progressing nicely. Each girl has about 350 square feet to take care of. The troop has also put in many hours of time helping the local librarians to prepare the county quota of books for the soldiers' library. The girls are very energetic and enthusiastic and are anxious for more work to do.

R. S. E., Captain.

## The Story of a Girl Who Liked to Keep House

# SISTER'S VOCATION

*By Josephine Daskam Bacon*

**A**T the window of a large and stately guest-chamber of a large and stately house, there sat, one day, a small and disconsolate young lady dressed in black. There was nothing about her appearance to afford material for brilliant description. She had brown eyes and brown hair, and a jolly little laugh, and she had been called "Sister" by two small brothers, two aunts, and a father all her life. If that does not describe her, what would?

Though her room was handsomely furnished; though she had a share in the service of four maids, two men, and a gardener; though there were tea and little thin sandwiches going on in one of the parlors, and a great number of fine books in the library, and a grand piano in the music-room, yet Sister was very unhappy.

It was not entirely because her father had died, and the two little boys had been sent away to school. That was six months ago, and Sister was a brave girl, and a healthy one, too. She and her father had been busy all their lives, and had scant respect for people who sat idle too long for the sake of grief. She remembered how, when her mother died, her father had worked his hardest—and she knew now how he had felt then. She had come to Aunt Ida's with the firm determination not to obtrude herself or her sorrow, and she had succeeded. Indeed her success had been, if anything, too great. She had been a mother, a housekeeper, a teacher, and the best of friends to all her little family from the day when, on her fifteenth birthday, she had proudly taken Aunt Julia's place behind the coffee. She had reigned for three years, and now, her kingdom over, she had come to a house where she was the merest guest.

Aunt Ida was politely sympathetic with her little stranger niece, but she had not met her brother for years, and had never approved of his marriage nor his manner of bringing up his children. She had been a great beauty herself, and was very busy at making beauties of her two daughters and keeping up her social duties, which were many. She considered that in offering her niece

a home she had done a most amiable and charitable thing, and that Sister could want any other employment than walking out for her health, and waiting till she could with propriety enter her aunt's social world, she could not comprehend. Poor Sister was not even allowed to dust her bed-room, so strict were Aunt Ida's views as to the proper occupations of a young lady, and was offered walks, music, shopping, and the charge of the invitations until the dancing class and the fencing club should begin. And Sister's cheeks grew thinner and whiter, and her mouth drooped at the corners that had been so happily curved in the upward direction. For she could not do these things at all. The fencing and dancing frightened her to think of, and as for the rest—

"It is most unfortunate," said Aunt Ida, "that poor Henry's child has no vocation, so to speak. She has no beauty, and she is, unfortunately, not clever. She does not care for books, so unlucky in a plain girl, and she cannot play a note. She has no manner with company—in fact, her one desire seems to be to cook and clean! But, then, poor Henry had such ideas, and married so badly, you know."

Aunt Ida and Lois had gone south for ten days, and Gladys was visiting with a friend. So Sister was alone in the big house with a friend of her aunt's who was entertaining largely, and who paid no more attention to the slender, brown-eyed girl in black than if she had not been in the house at all.

An afternoon tea was in progress on this particular day, and Sister could hear the plates rattle and the voices chatter, and the big hall-door open and close every ten minutes. She would gladly have cut the thin sandwiches and dusted the big parlors, but that, she knew, was absolutely forbidden her. The crowds of people frightened her, and she felt, oh! terribly useless and left out, and utterly unworthy of the big guest-room.

As her eyes wandered up and down the street they brightened suddenly. Coming out of the corner house, opposite Aunt Ida's, were two handsome little fellows of six or seven dragging a broken express-

cart noisily down the steps. For the sake of Harold and Teddy all little boys were dear to Sister. She caught the older child's eye and waved her hand, and just at that minute, the younger one slipped and fell on the steps. The street was perfectly empty just then, and Sister heard his screaming; no one else seemed to pay any attention. No nurse ran down the steps to pick him up; no frightened mother leaned out of the window. He lay where he had fallen on the bottom stair, and his brother bent tenderly over him, patting his little cropped head and trying to pull him up. But he only sobbed harder, and refused to roll off the cold stone. This was beyond Sister's endurance. She threw a cape over her shoulders, and ran down the hall-stairs and out of the door. She was across the street in a moment, and in another the little fellow was on her lap.

She kissed the place to make it well in the dear traditional fashion, and before they knew it, they were playing all three together; Sister an obliging passenger in the express-cart, and Howard and Billy the driver and horse, respectively. Then, as it grew a little chilly and Billy coughed and sneezed, Sister would have left them had not Howard's little chin begun to quiver at the suggestion. He looked too much like Teddy; and with a doubtful glance at Aunt Ida's front door, Sister went in with them.

"What will mamma say to a strange girl in her house?" she asked, as they climbed the steps.

"Oh, mamma don't live here; she lives in heaven," said Howard, cheerfully, and Billy added, "Summer and winter, too—all the year 'round; she stays there!"

Sister's heart warmed to them even more. "And papa?" she asked, as they pushed the door open.

"Papa's gone off for a week," returned Howard, the older. He's gone to cure a sick lady all well; there's nobody but Annie and Ellen, and Ellen went yesterday."

Sister looked about the hall in amazement. It was a handsome, old-fashioned hall running through the house, and the rooms opening from it, though fewer and smaller than Aunt Ida's, were well furnish-



ed and attractive; but the dust of weeks covered rugs and chairs, a litter of toys and food everywhere, the windows were clouded and dirty, and the remains of many fires had spread over the hearths in the front rooms. Chairs were overturned, books lay with bent backs, a close, musty odor pervaded the lower story, and a smoky, flat air rushed up to the nursery.

"Who takes care of you—what grown person?" she asked, as they went into a close, unaired play-room, and the older boy began carefully taking off his brother's little leg-gings before touching his own things. Howard looked puzzled.

"I guess Aunt Lilly does," he returned, with an odd little laugh. "But Aunt Lilly's got a dreadful ache in her face, an' she has the nerves, too. I hope she's better," he added, carelessly. "I haven't seen her since two or three days before yesterday—or maybe yesterday, I saw her"—as he caught the amazement in Sister's face.

"Why, but this is dreadful!" cried Sister. "Does papa know that Aunt Lilly is sick?"

Howard was getting out some tin soldiers, and did not answer; but little Billy stood up and with hands folded tightly over his little stomach and his chin in the air, mimicked: "Children, children, do go away. You make me cway!"

The situation was obvious, and Sister grew more and more interested. The children had such pretty little ways, and were so strong and handsome, that even their dirty faces and tumbled, untidy clothes could not disguise the fact that they had been well brought up on the whole. That they should be alone in the house with a nervous invalid, and servants too clearly incompetent, seemed horrible to the sister of Ted and Harold. The furniture and belongings of the house showed comfort, if not wealth, and she felt sure that there must be some great mistake on somebody's part to account for such a pitiful condition of affairs.

As she considered whether or not she had any right to push her inquiries further, the nursery clock struck six, and Howard dragged two tall chairs to the table, and got out some spoons and bowls from a cupboard near the fireplace.

He started from the room, and Sister followed him through a long, dirty hall into a fine large kitchen. It was as untidy as only a badly-tended kitchen can be, and before the fire, on a long bench, lay a large heavy woman fast asleep, breathing

heavily. Her face was flushed, and Sister saw with disgust a bottle and half-empty glass on the floor beside her. The children paid no attention to her, but took a big pitcher and a plate of bread from a side table and left the kitchen immediately: Sister, her lips pressed tight together and a stern look in the jolly brown eyes, behind them.

"Where is Aunt Lilly's room?" she asked them, when they were well settled over the bread and milk. Billy pointed to a door at the end of the hall that led out of the nursery, and Sister was knocking at it in a moment.

"Is that Ellen?" a high, fretful voice called out. "Ellen, I'll have no more complaints; I'm not strong enough to bear them! If Annie is drunk again, dismiss her immediately, and get another. My meals are outrageously served—outrageously! I don't know what the doctor will say when he gets back. Why are you paid so much if you can't manage better?"

"It's not Ellen," Sister began.

"Then stop rattling the door; you can't get in. Who is it?"

Sister's head rose, and her eyes sparkled dangerously.

"I'm not a servant, and I cannot talk through the door!" she said, decidedly.

There was a pause and finally the door opened a little. Sister pressed through the opening and confronted a tall, thin, peevish-looking woman, with a bandage tied around her head.

The room was like all the others, uncared for and close, with various trays and bottles and other evidences of an invalid's room scattered about.

"I am Mrs. Underwood's niece—across the street," Sister explained politely, in answer to the woman's surprised face.

"I came in to play with the children. I am very fond of children, and—and—the nurse seems to have left, and the cook is—is unable to cook, I should say, and the little boy seems to have a bad cold—"

"Dear, dear, I suppose so!" interrupted Aunt Lilly. "It's always the way! I'm far too delicate and nervous to be at the head of this house, I always was. And Robert gone for a week. Dear, dear!"

She was so frankly helpless, so irresponsible for the whole matter, that Sister grew bolder.

"Oughtn't you to get another nurse and a cook?" she suggested, as Aunt Lilly sank back in a comfortable chair and sniffed salts from a tarnished silver bottle.

"Dear me, yes! But I don't know of any—do you? And I certainly can't move. I'm growing sicker every second; worry always makes me quite ill!"

"The children might as well be alone in the house!" thought Sister, in consternation.

"I depended so much on Ellen; if only somebody could be got till the doctor gets back! He engages the maids, it wears on me so," complained Aunt Lilly.

She was certainly pale, and she had evidently no intentions whatever of leaving her room. A dazzling idea came to Sister's mind, an idea that made her cheeks flush and her voice shake as she said, timidly: "I happen to know of a good cook that Aunt Ida had, and—and—I could take care of the children till he came, if you—not unless you like, of course—if you could trust me. I was housekeeper at home—"

It was out. Would she be ordered from the house? Would Aunt Lilly laugh at her?

That lady took another sniff at her salts. "That's very kind of you, I'm sure," she said, languidly. "When you get the cook, tell her I like toast soft in the middle and a pale-brown, and do try to keep the children out of this hall, please!"

Sister stared. "How much do you pay the cook, Miss—Lilly?" she asked.

"I'm sure I can't be expected to know that," she broke out fretfully. "Pay what seems best, if you know the cook."

She turned her head away, and Sister felt dismissed.

"One thing more," said the girl, timidly, for she was afraid that Miss Lilly might grow vexed to the point of reconsidering her permission, "the house needs cleaning, I'm sure; if you could see it—can I get a woman in for a day to help?"

Miss Lilly's eyes remained closed, and though Sister repeated the question, there was an obstinate silence. So she closed the door, and half frightened at her temerity and half jubilant at what seemed to her hungry little soul the prospect of a feast of delightful work, she went down to the kitchen. To her infinite relief it was empty. As she entered the nursery, Howard met her, a worried look on his little face.

"Annie's gone, too," he said, simply. Sister's eyes filled with tears as she watched him turn back to quiet Billy, who had fallen into an uncomfortable dose on the high chair, and was whimpering in the dark, half awake.

"I have to take care of Billy till



papa gets back," said the little fellow, confidentially. Sister took Billy into her lap, and put one arm around his brother.

"I have two little brothers," she said, cheerfully, "but they're big now."

"How big?" inquired Howard.

"Harold is eleven and Teddy is thirteen, and so they are off at school. I feel very lonesome for them sometimes. May I stay and take care of you until papa gets back?"

"Instead of Ellen?"

"Yes, instead of Ellen."

"I'd like it," said Howard, seriously.

"Ellen wouldn't play passenger at all the last day."

So that was settled, and at her request they took her to the room off the nursery where their two white little beds stood. It was cold and dark, but she found wood for a fire and fresh linen for the tumbled beds. They had a nice bath and a glorious pillow-fight, and for the first time in months Sister was kissed two warm and noisy good-nights. She left them fast asleep, and slipped out across the dark street. She had a moment of uneasiness as she saw in imagination Aunt Ida's horrified face, but, while she put some things in her bag and went down stairs to find Aunt Ida's friend, she thought how her father had gone into old Dr. Duncan's house once and "played uncle" for a week, when things seemed to be beyond poor Miss Duncan's control.

"I felt that I was wanted, Sister, and so I went," was all the explanation he had ever given her. And she felt that she was wanted, just now, at Aunt Lilly's. Certainly, no one wanted her here, she felt, as when she said quietly that she was going to help the doctor's sister take care of the children, Miss Taylor shrugged her shoulders and replied indifferently that she was the best judge of what she should do.

That night she slept in the room with Billy and Howard, and the next day saw great changes in the doctor's house. To the ecstatic delight of the boys they were allowed to play about in the kitchen while Sister, enveloped in a big print-apron, got breakfast for all three with a skill born of days' and weeks' experience of a cookless family. Then the most inviting of trays found its way to Aunt Lilly's room in the hands of a neat little maid who, though evidently unable to take Ellen's place, had appeared early in the day, at that nurse's orders, and

who agreed to stay at any rate until the doctor should come. A message to Norah Flaherty, who had been dismissed from Aunt Ida's house for some trifling error, brought a good trusty cook, and ten o'clock saw a cleaning-woman with her pail and mop established in the hall.

Oh, but those were days! All the housekeeper in Sister revelled in such an opportunity for activity; all the mother in her delighted in tending the wondering children as they had never been tended since "Mamma gave us barfs just the way you do," as they confided to Sister.

And her ambition soared higher as the grateful house repaid the toil of its busy little mistress and her three helpers. In two days the lower story was reflecting from window to polished floor the dancing fire-light, the freshened rugs, the shining furniture, and Sister pined for new worlds to conquer. The nursery must be done, of course, and it would be a shame, as the cleaning-woman herself admitted, to stop at that.

So, on the fifth morning, Aunt Lilly was surprised to find Mrs. Underwood's remarkable niece standing by her bed with empty hands, instead of little Maggie with the usual tray.

"I have served your breakfast in the guest-chamber, Miss Lilly, for this morning," said this young lady, "and I will help you in there to eat it."

Aunt Lilly stared in undisguised displeasure.

"Indeed, I shall do no such thing," she returned pettishly, "this room is well enough: I have a headache," and she closed her eyes.

"That," returned the young lady in the print-apron and little dusting-cap, decidedly, "is because it is so stuffy and close in here—nothing else; and it is so dark that I can't see to find all the glasses and silver that are up here."

Miss Lilly opened her eyes. Was this competent, brisk, bright-eyed young person the timid, sad young girl that had told her she knew of a cook? What was she doing? Actually the blinds were going up—the windows were open.

"I'll go! I'll go!" cried Aunt Lilly, in dismay. "Bring me my wrapper!"

So Sister and her trusty woman fell upon the last stronghold of disorder, and while they scrubbed and shook and aired, Aunt Lilly consumed pleasant little lunches in the shining guest-chamber; Norah Flaherty sang cheerfully in the sunny kitchen, and the children trotted contentedly through the "pretty new house" en-

joying like little animals the cleanliness and warmth and comfort they had so missed, yet could not precisely understand nor describe. They took the present situation as simply as they had borne the past unpleasantness, and neither Maggie nor Norah ever guessed that the young lady who sang over her work, played with the children, and yet had a lynx-eye for dirt and disorder, was not an old friend of the family and the natural guardian of the boys in their father's absence.

It was the sixth day of Sister's reign, and, after superhuman labor on the part of Norah and Maggie, and with the help of Billy and Howard, who stuck all the pins into the rings, the glistening windows were suitably shrouded in curtains so fresh and spotless that even Aunt Ida's looked a little wilted by comparison. It was the last touch, for the door-bell and brass-plate had been polished the day before, and Sister, with an almost pathetic sense that there was absolutely nothing else to be done, had dismissed the admiring cleaning-woman and settled down to mending.

The twilight was over the city, and a fine cold rain was falling. Wet and chilly travellers cast envious eyes at the red-lighted windows of the comfortable square house on the corner, and one of them heaved a sigh of relief as his buggy drew up before it.

"Take Prince around, Peter, and bring in some wood immediately—it will be colder than a barn, probably. Ellen will neglect the fires so!"

He sprang up the steps very eagerly for a man of his years. He never returned from the shortest absence without a horrid fear that something had happened to his two babies, and something in Aunt Lilly's look as he hastily bade her good-bye had made him tremble at the thought that her neuralgia might be approaching. But it was too early for that, he had consoled himself, and the professional opportunity was too good to lose by staying at home. So he had left Howard and Billy to Ellen, and Ellen, though she had grown negligent of late, was really fond of them, poor little fellows.

"It's no way for them to live—no way at all!" he muttered, vainly hunting for his latch-key. "The house is not fit for them to grow up in, and poor Lilly grows less competent every week. It's a pitiful home to come to, when a man's tired out! But whom can I get? Some housekeeper—"

He gave up the search for his key and pulled the bell sharply, staring hard at the neat white-aproned little maid who so pleasantly replaced the dawdling, untidy Ellen.

"I am Dr. Watson, and I will find the boys myself; please do not tell them that I am here," he said to her. It was his great pleasure to steal on them unexpectedly and catch their first delighted looks and cries, and he stepped softly through the hall to find them.

He was a man, you see, and men cannot explain definitely what it is that transforms an untidy house into a well-kept home, but he felt that the hall was somehow different as he peeped into the parlor. There the change was too evident to allow of any doubt; the snowy curtains, the shining grate, the sweet clean air, soon observed by a physician who had fought for a year against dust and stale odors, the absence of toys and clothes—all struck him as he went through.

"It cannot be that Lilly—" he thought, and then he went into the study, where thought failed him. For one year he had watched the household machinery run slowly down, but early in the day he had sternly forbidden both children and servants from meddling with "Papa's room," the one place that had been sacred for all the years since his young wife had ceased to arrange it. He had tried to keep it neat, but it had gradually grown into such chaos that he had dreaded to begin the task of arranging it. And lo, it was done! Every little ornament in its accustomed place; clothing, books, papers and instruments sorted and put away; the brightest of fires leaping—"the chimney has been repaired!"—on the hearth, the dark red curtains comfortably drawn; the books well dusted on the study table, the lamps all trimmed and cleaned, and strangest sight of all, three red roses nodding over a tall vase on the mantel.

He ran up the stairs, wondering as he ran at the stillness over all the house. No doors banged, no children called out, no fretful aunt or angry nurse scolded them; all was quiet, orderly, prepared for his inspection. Aunt Lilly's door was half open—wonder of wonders!—and peeping through, he beheld that invalid in a regenerated room, clad in a house-dress that bore no resemblance whatever to the bath-robe that she commonly wore, peacefully doing fancy work, with no sign of the tray, bottles, and tarnished vinaigrette that invariably accompanied her.

As he knocked at the door she did not look up.

"I hope the soup will be thinner tonight, Sister," she said. "I am confident that Norah never strains it," and she sewed on peacefully.

"Good heavens, Lilly, is there a nurse in the house? Who is sick?"

Her brother advanced into the room, and caught her hands nervously.

Aunt drew away with some irritation. "I must say, Robert, you are very startling. Of course nobody is sick—you will send me into nervous prostration! We are all as well as ever."

"Whom do you call Sister? Who has made the house over? Where are the children?"

"Mrs. Underwood's niece—a very energetic girl—has been here with the children. They seem very fond of her, and she certainly manages them wonderfully. As to the house, it has been turned topsy-turvy more or less—I was out of my room one whole day! But as long as the children are quiet I ought not to complain, I suppose. Still, the soup was not strained yesterday—"

"Oh, bother the soup, Lilly! Do you mean to say that a perfect stranger has been managing this house since I left?"

"She's not a perfect stranger, when it comes to that," returned Aunt Lilly, imperturbably. "It seems she is Frank Claxton's daughter, whom you used to have home from school with you—he died, you know. She quite cried when I said you would be here soon. She wanted to know if you mightn't be willing to keep her as a kind of assistant housekeeper, to take care of the boys. Ellen left, I believe, and Annie, too. She would be glad to do it for what Ellen got, she says, but that is nonsense, of course. She's a mere girl, and though the children are devoted to her—"

"Good heavens, Lilly, have you no gratitude? Don't you see—don't you understand, that it's because she won't offer to give us her services—for our sakes? Old Claxton's daughter? As fine a man as ever stepped! Live with us? At her own price—on any terms! Wasn't I going to hire a housekeeper? Where are the children?"

He was already down the hall and at the nursery door. Before it he paused to take in the pretty picture. In front of a roaring fire, in what was to him the cheeriest, brightest, warmest room in the world, Howard sat on a worn old fur rug, clasping his knees, gazing adoringly up at a slender girl in

black with a basket piled high with little garments by her side and a stocking in her hand. Billy played quietly at her side, and a little table with bowls and spoons stood, white and neat, farther off.

"And what did Teddy do then, Sister?" said Howard, interestedly.

"What did Ted do den?" echoed Billy, happily, standing a tin soldier on his head.

"Why, he just made another snow man and forgot all about the one that was spoiled," said the girl, "and after that—who is it?"

But before the boys could jump into his arms he was on the rug with them, pressing his iron-gray curls against their little brown, cropped heads.

He held out his hand to Sister, and there were tears in his eyes.

"Their mother sat with them here, like this," he said, simply, and Sister understood.

And when she would have left them alone, the doctor pushed the boys away, and taking her hands, drew her to him and kissed her forehead.

"My dear little girl," he said, "I knew your father years ago too well to offer to take, or try to take, his place. I suppose you know that you are like him in many ways. But my sister tells me you would like to stay with us, and you cannot imagine how glad I should be to have you. If you can make it your home, you can surely make it ours!"

His kindly worn face, his fatherly air, the evident gratitude and interest in his keen, clear eyes came even nearer Sister's heart than his words.

"I have thought it over, and I am sure papa would like me to," she said, half to him, half to herself. "I'm sure I can do more here—"

"I'm drefful hungry, Sister!" pleaded little Howard, "It's drefful late!"

And Sister, who never spent much time in thought, not being intellectual, nor even clever, dropped consideration and set about the nursery supper, which had always appeared to her simple mind more important than any possible discussion could be!

"Sister's Vocation" was first printed as one of the stories in a book for girls published by Charles Scribner's Sons, and may still be obtained in that form. It is reprinted here by permission of the publishers. Others of these stories, also by Josephine Daskam Bacon, will appear in the RALLY from time to time.

# OUR OWN WIN THE WAR PAGE

Every Girl Scout Can Do At Least One of These Things

## ABOUT THOSE MAGAZINES

"When you finish reading this magazine place a one-cent stamp on this notice, mail the magazine and it will be placed in the hands of our soldiers and sailors. . ."

We are all familiar with the little notice beginning that way, now found on the outside of magazines likely to be of interest to the boys in camp. What a splendid idea it is, and of course we all mean to carry out the suggestion. Just as soon as we have finished that serial we are reading, and the short story, and that good war article—why, we're going to stick a little green stamp on the magazine and send it right off to camp so that some boy can enjoy it while it is still new.

And then what happens? Well, as likely as not, somebody borrows the magazine and doesn't return it for a few days, or perhaps we don't have time to read it all the way through right away, and we lay it on the shelf against the time when we want something to read.

By and by we notice that we have quite an accumulation of magazines, six or seven, anyway. Then we begin to think of what a nuisance it is to get them to the post office, (just wicked laziness, of course, but that's the way most of us are), and pretty soon we don't get those magazines off at all.

Now suppose that some day in the post office, or drug store, or other public place there appeared a nice little notice that read something like this:

### *Are You Hoarding Magazines?*

Our boys are hungry for good reading matter. Are you depriving them of it, by holding on to your magazines long after you have finished with them?

Let us help you send them to the camps. One cent for each magazine pays for stamping. We will gladly collect and mail them for you. *Girl Scouts—*  
*Telephone—*

How joyfully many of us would regard that notice. Who is going to take the hint?

## BITS OF WOOL

What are you doing with the odd bits of wool left over from socks and sweaters and mufflers? Every bit of wool is precious, you know, and it must all be put to some use. If you

will knit your bits up into six and one-half inch squares, they can go to the Comforts Committee of the Navy League and be made up into afghans. If you do not knit, perhaps you crochet; crocheted squares are just as acceptable as the knitted ones.

As to colors, you do not need to limit yourself the least bit. Any color will do, for most of the afghans are made up hit or miss, like the old-fashioned "crazy quilts." The bright variety of colors helps to cheer the poor sick sailors to whom they go. If you want to combine the soft gray wool left from Brother Bob's sweater with the lavender from grandma's slippers, go right ahead. Try to make the combinations just as pretty as you can. Some knitters have

made squares with all the allied colors in fanciful design.

If your group would like to make a whole afghan, it should be seven squares wide by nine squares long. A knitted border of solid color, or a crocheted edge makes a good finish. Either afghan or squares should be sent to Comforts Committee of the Navy League, 405 Madison Avenue, New York City.

## A DRIVE ON THE SCRAP BAG

"There's a perfectly good piece of material left from Papa's shirt. Don't you think it will do splendidly for a little apron." Ever so many girls have heard their mothers say that as they dug about in that fascinating treasure hold—the scrap

(Continued on page 14)



Photo by International Film Service, Inc., N. Y.

Warm weather doesn't stop the Girl Scouts' knitting or wool winding.



# PLAY WEEK and THE GIRL SCOUTS

## An Appeal For Nation-Wide Co-operation

*"To be strong for Victory the Nation must let her children play."*

**T**HIS is the thought behind the War Recreation Drive which is being directed by the Child Welfare Department of the Woman's Committee, Council of National Defense. Since the outbreak of the war juvenile delinquency in Europe has increased alarmingly. The children reflect the unsettled condition, the overtaxed nerves of the nation.

England has already begun to take definite steps to overcome this condition; one of the first things she did was to give the children a better chance to play.

There is no question about the need of play, especially of organized play. It is as vital to development as work. Play is a part of modern military training. For example, every soldier in Camp Sherman has two hours of organized play, daily, as a necessary part of military training. Even the President must have regular recreation to keep himself fit for his arduous duties.

Recognizing the importance of bringing this need of systematic recreation for children before the American public, before the same condition that prevails in Europe overtakes us, the War Time Recreation Drive has been planned. The culmination of this drive will be Patriotic Play Week in the latter part of the summer. Demonstrations lasting anywhere from a day to a week, showing what may be provided in the way of wholesome recreation and occupation for young people, will be given in hundreds of towns in the United States. All organizations that deal with young people's activities have been asked to co-operate.

There can be no question about the attitude of the Girl Scouts. We must assist to our utmost this effort of the Nation to provide its children with the right sort of interests and amusements.

Girl Scout activities have received the fullest approval of the Government. It becomes merely a question, then, of presenting them to the public in the best way at this time.

Play Week will undoubtedly take different form in different localities. In the bulletin, "Patriotic Play Week and the War-Time Recreation Drive," the possibilities of the week are outlined as follows:

"In city neighborhoods and other communities where competent leadership and many co-operating organizations are available, the Patriotic Week may include athletics, games, water sports, music—especially community singing, dramatics, various contests, exhibits, refreshments, speaking. Each of these might have its half day, or its hour in the culminating week. Or the week's program may be organized around a "Children's Day," "Family and Community Day," "Soldiers' and Sailors' Day," "Fraternal Orders' Day," "Public Schools' Day," "Church Day"—the latter being either the opening or the final Sunday of the week."

You will of course have to adapt your ideas to the plans of your community. The first thing to do is to learn if there is a local Child Welfare Chairman or Committee responsible for the Recreation Drive, and if so, offer them all the time, resources and suggestions which you can give.

Second: If no local arrangements for the Recreation Drive have been made, consult with the Chairman of the Woman's Committee in your Community, or write to the State Chairman of the Woman's Committee. If the State Chairman cannot be located readily, write to the Child Welfare Department, Woman's Committee, Council of National Defense, 1814 N Street, Washington, D. C. Report any suggestions and working powers available for local organization.

As to definite ways in which Girl Scouts may participate: If they are assigned part of a day to carry out any program they choose, there surely could be no better way of presenting Girl Scout activities than through a spirited, well-organized rally. In May we published an article full of good suggestions for rallies. The article is too long to reprint here, but the following hints from it are worth repeating:

"Bear in mind that to many in the audience 'scouting' is but a word in the dictionary, and you must make it a real living thing for them to take home and think about."

"Do not have your program too long. An hour and a half is enough for the spectators at one sitting. Make a good, varied selection of typical scouting, and let your audi-

ence go away wanting more rather than wearied by what is fun for the scouts.

"Do not have too much drilling. It gets tiresome to watch. Everybody is drilling now, and the soldiers' perfection is hard to equal. In a large rally accent the troop rather than the individual. This will re-act on the spirit of the troop as a whole, especially in inter-troop contests.

"It is the general opinion of scout leaders that all rallies should have a formal opening and closing. This gives dignity to the occasion, serves as a reminder to the Scout, and shows to the public the seriousness of the Girl Scout purpose.

"Signaling is one of the most effective scout activities and perhaps the most pleasing to an audience today. Work it up from the Handbook. Scouts should be able to send and receive messages of thirty letters per minute. Wig-wag signaling with the single flag is the method of the General Service Code. It can be used with flags by day and torches, lanterns or flashlights by night. An interesting feature at an indoor rally would be to turn off lights where possible, and wig-wag by these artificial lights. After the demonstration by individuals or troops ask some one in the audience to give a message for the girl to signal, or have a message signaled across the hall for a girl to read."

You will probably not want to be held down to any hard and fast program for your rally, since each locality will want to feature the work in which its girls are most proficient, but the following outline may prove suggestive. This program is based on two very successful rallies, given respectively at Boston and Washington.

If possible, have the rally in an attractive out-of-door spot. This makes it possible to include a very realistic camp scene.

### PROGRAM

#### I. OPENING EXERCISES.

(All scouts take part)

Troops march in, military formation; Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; Star Spangled Banner; Scout Promise; Scout Laws;

#### II. BRIEF DRILL.

#### III. SIGNALING.

If you have enough expert signalers, you may work up a contest; otherwise, give just a short exhibi-

tion. Try sending messages about Play Week to the audience. Facts may be obtained in the little bulletin enclosed with this number of the RALLY. With a small group it is effective to have six or eight girls stand facing each other in two lines, with a captain at the end, back to the audience. A regular alphabet drill may be gone through if the girls are not expert enough to send messages.

#### IV. FIRST AID.

Exhibition of slings, bandages, etc. Contests of teams of five girls; properly treat and carry off by stretcher accidental injuries, such as Fractured Hip, Broken Leg (above knee and below knee), Broken Back. This exhibition may be made more interesting if the method of carrying the patient is varied, using one time the blanket stretcher, another time one made of skirts, etc.

#### V. CAMP SCENE.

Fire Building; Camp Cooking—boiling water, frying bacon. Knot Tying: In pitching the tent you will be able to work in some knot tying; other knots may be shown by one group while another is building the fire. Work for speed and explain what each knot is for. Songs Around Fire: It would be jolly to end your camp scene by singing a few Girl Scout or patriotic songs around your camp fire.

#### VI. FOLK DANCING.

There is nothing prettier for an out-of-door entertainment than folk dancing. If your troop has not already done this sort of work, it would be well to take it up with them. Troops in the vicinity of Bos-

ton have done some notably good work along this line. Through Mr. Cecil Sharpe they have been encouraged to revive many of the old dances.

#### VII. GAMES AND CONTESTS.

This part of the program is most adjustable. Any sort of athletic features may be introduced: dashes, basket-ball throw, jumping, swimming etc.

#### VIII. CLOSING EXERCISES.

Troops assemble. Colors—lowering of Flag; Taps—blown by bugle.

It may be that instead of being given opportunity for a rally, you will be asked to take part in a parade or get up some Girl Scout floats.

In this latter case, you would be able to show some of the Girl Scout activities that cannot be demonstrated so easily at a rally. For instance, you might have a Food Conservation float, which would exhibit the sort of work done by the scouts in canning and preserving. To cover the subject thoroughly, you might work up something of this sort. On one part of the float might be raw vegetables in a box; beans, beets or anything that can be canned. These might bear a sign, "We are the beans the Girl Scouts raised," or "We are from the Girl Scouts' War Garden." A scout sitting beside them with a hoe or rake would lend atmosphere.

Another part of the float might have a small table with vegetables, jars, etc., spread out ready for work. Still another corner should show the finished work, rows of filled jars. Keep to one central idea in your

## French's Patriotic Plays

**The Girls Over Here** A patriotic play in one act. The characters are eight young ladies who are interested in working for the victory of Uncle Sam and his Allies.

**The Liberty Thrift Girls** A patriotic play in one act for nine female characters. This spirited play is loyalty and liberty propaganda in dramatic form, simply told and relieved by natural humor and a variety of lovable characters.

**Hooverizing Internationale** A patriotic play in one act appealing for the Conservation of food.

**Colette of the Red Cross** A one-act play for nine females. The principal character is a lovable little French girl who has been adopted by an American Girl's Auxiliary of the Red Cross.

**The Spirit of Liberty** A patriotic entertainment containing pantomimes, drills, and dances. Any number of boys and girls may be used.

**For Freedom** A patriotic play in one act for three females and one male. It is a call to men to serve, and women to give their men to the cause of freedom.

**The Man Without a Country** A patriotic play for boys. The thrilling masterpiece of patriotism from which this play has been made is too well known to need introduction. The play is in a prologue and three acts. Any number of male characters can be used.

All the above are published separately at 25 cents per copy, 2 cents additional for postage. They are all adaptable for School use, Red Cross and other War benefits. Send two-cent stamp for our 143-page catalogue describing thousands of plays and special list of patriotic plays.

Samuel French, 28 W. 38th St., New York

float, and above all, avoid overcrowding it. Be sure that the girls who ride on the float are grouped so that they make part of the picture. Lively signs will add much to the interest.

Space is too limited to give many suggestions but by getting together all the Girl Scout enthusiasts in your vicinity, you will surely have no trouble in thinking up plenty of things for yourself. Don't wait until the last minute; start something now.

## OUR OWN WIN THE WAR PAGE

(Continued from page 12)

bag. Or perhaps daughter herself has pulled out the pieces of fine madras that were once part of father's best shirts, for her own sewing. It has always seemed a shame that such lovely pieces had to go in the scrap bag at all or be put to lowly use in the shape of work aprons and dust cloths.

But now there has come a use for these cast-off garments—in fact, a real need of them! Shirts that have worn through at the collar band, that are faded under the arms, whose cuffs are frayed, are one and all eagerly sought by the Stage Women's War Relief. And what do you suppose is made from them? Baby dresses for refugee children—the cunningest little dresses in the world for toddlers of three and four years old! Pink shirts, lavender shirts, striped shirts and checked shirts, they are all used. And if there is

not enough of one material, combinations are made. A tiny kilted blue and white striped skirt swings jauntily from a small blue yoke, or a soft white satin-striped madras is trimmed with bands of pink.

When this work started the members of the Stage Women's War Relief went first to their friends in the theatrical profession. The response was enthusiastic; there was a deluge of shirts. All sorts of notables contributed, stage managers, matinee idols, and moving picture stars. There will be dozens of little dresses made from these contributions. Do you suppose the little French and Belgian tots would be any prouder if they knew the material in their tiny frocks had once been worn by John Drew, Douglas Fairbanks or Charlie Chaplin!

But this drive is not to be limited to actors. No indeed! It is to be

carried into every home in the country. Every discarded shirt whose front and back are still in good repair is sought.

And right here is work for any Girl Scout that wants to help. Organize a collecting party, make a drive on the scrap bag, not only your own, but your friend's. Remember, every shirt is a dress for a little child.

All garments sent must be spotlessly clean and pressed, but the scouts can surely attend to that without great difficulty. When the collection is all together, you might even have a washing and ironing bee and make a party of the occasion.

When you have your bundle of nice, clean material, send it to the Stage Women's War Relief, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York City. The dresses will be made up in New York.



# NEWS NOTES

*From the Traveller, Boston, Mass., June 28.*

Forward, the weeding brigade!

War has been declared on the whole weed tribe that infests the Common. The Girl Scouts threw their gauntlet into the war gardens yesterday when they rolled up their khaki sleeves and went to the aid of the struggling beets, cabbage plants and Swiss chard.

Witch grass to right of them, white-weed to left of them, milkweed in front of them, all invited attack. The girls pitched in ruthlessly and tore the enemy out of its trenches by the roots. When last heard of the weed had succumbed, completely crushed 'neath the heel of the invader.

The Girl Scouts started their offensive when it became known that the weeds were advancing, en masse, upon the defenceless vegetables. They struck the first blow before the weed had a chance to get its favorite strangle hold, and nipped plans in the bud.

Among the Girl Scouts who have agreed to do sentry duty, and to frustrate all future advances of the weed, are Helen Anderson of Troop 11 and Mildred Angier and Dorothy Wilson of the Alliston Troop.

The Girl Scouts have made themselves indispensable to the war gardens on the Common. They do everything from "thinning out" to wheeling the barrows about. Even the cut-worms slink out of sight when a uniform appears on the horizon. The girls are in the field to help Uncle Sam produce food, and they are making a good job of it.

*From the Times Star, Cincinnati, Ohio.*

The familiar reveille call of "I can't get 'em up! I can't get 'em up!" will be heard in Terrace Park every morning at 6 o'clock, beginning June 28 and extending until September 1. The call will be sounded by a girl bugler, who will arouse Girl Scouts, for whom a camp has been established in Terrace Park. The camp will be under command of Miss Adelaide Barker, who will receive a new detail of 25 girls every week. There will be two captains of each group and the Hyde Park girls will have the honor of being first, starting there next Friday. The girls will take care of a war garden, which occupies the better

part of two adjoining acres, and during their stay at the camp will learn how to can. For exercise they will be drilled and take "hikes" through the country. The military touch to be added will be that of reveille, drilling, retreat, and taps, in addition to semaphore signaling. Troops from different sections of the city will be sent to the camp.

June 29 was Exhibition Day for the Fall River Girl Scouts. Eight Fall River troops and one Pottersville troop took part. The program opened with all troops on the field for the salute to the flag. This was very well done. Four scouts marching onto the field diagonally carrying the flag flat, and raising it when in position, on the field. A senior scout then came forward and gave the Call to the Colors. This was followed by the pledge of allegiance by all troops. After this individual troops presented various scout activities, including wigwam building and semaphore signaling. Fall River has nine troops now. Pottersville one, and Tiverton, R. I., a next-door neighbor, one.

Splendid news has come of the Replacement work which has been done by Troop I, Pleasantville, New York. The girls are enthusiastically volunteering for housework and the care of small children so that busy mothers may be relieved for patriotic work.

Two of the girls have gone regularly to the home of Mrs. L. D. Huntoon, Chairman of the Thrift Committee. Mrs. Huntoon, herself, has written us a little letter about the girls. "Finding it difficult to accomplish the work I had undertaken in connection with the war without neglecting my household duties, I inquired of one of the local scout leaders in the Spring if it would not be possible to secure some assistance from the scouts along domestic lines. Our conversation resulted in Florence Hunter and Ellen Curtis agreeing to help me out and since April 30th they have performed such tasks as cleaning silver and brass, gathering and preparing vegetables, and weeding. Edith Hunt and Edith Yarr have also rendered able assistance. Such work is the finest kind of patriotic service, as it has enabled me to carry on the work I have undertaken with a greater degree of efficiency."

Since the first of June the Scouts in Mt. Kisco have been most active, not alone in troop affairs, but in a splendid, energetic manner, giving valuable aid in the campaigns and drives which have taken place in the village.

During the last drive for War Saving Stamps, pledges amounting to \$14,875 were turned in by the girls to the Local Committee.

On July 4th the girls participated in a large parade and patriotic exercises. The march was long and the day hot, and although many individuals from various sections found it necessary to withdraw from the ranks, the scout division was intact to the very end.

A short while ago the girls gave a "movie show" for the benefit of National Headquarters, to be used in the "Scout Extension" work. The entire theatre was turned over to the girls. They arranged for the film, sold tickets at the box office, and did the ushering. It was great fun, and after the last performance when all money was counted, \$162.20 had been realized. Ten dollars were kept for troop expenses, the rest of the amount given to Headquarters.

At present the girls are giving valuable assistance to the Local Branch of the Council of National Defense by helping with the census. It is indeed an undertaking, but the girls realize they are working for the Government and in this spirit no task seems too difficult, no undertaking too large for a Girl Scout.

*From Albuquerque, N. M., Journal, June 28.*

Until 11 o'clock last night members of the local Girl Scout Troop labored in preparation for the Mother-Daughter Congress, which will open here tomorrow.

The first work of the girls was dish-washing. The troop went to the kitchens of the Elks' home, where they spent the afternoon until 3 o'clock preparing the dishes and silverware for the visitors.

At 3 o'clock the girls held a scout business meeting and after a short session went to the armory where they mopped, shoveled and scrubbed until the floor was clean, and when the visiting women manage to keep clean in their white frocks they may well think of the Girl Scouts, for without their work the women would have spoiled their frocks. One of the girls, Adelina Duran, spent almost the entire day at work, beginning yesterday morning and finishing when the last corner of the big building had been scoured last night.



## A MEDAL WINNER

I am sending you "Rules of the Winchester Rifle Corps" which are the accepted rules for the National Junior Corps, and I am happy to tell you one of the Girl Scouts, Miss Janice Newberger, of New York, won the medal for marksmanship at the Scudder School Range, 316 West 72d Street, this last season.

(Signed) JUNE HAUGHTON.

## CARRY ON!

During the last three weeks of June the Forget-me-not Troop of Medina, Ohio, sold 1,122 War Saving Stamps, to the value of \$4,678.74, and 3,490 Thrift Stamps worth \$872.50, the total sales being \$5,551.24. At the time of the Thrift Stamp drive the sales reached a total of more than \$2,000 on one day. Carry On!

## NEWS FROM THE FIELD

During the spring and early summer Miss Laura P. Holland was occupied with field work in Toledo and vicinity. The following paragraph, taken from a recent report, indicates the interest shown by the schools of Toledo in the Girl Scout movement.

"Many requests had come from schools which had not troops already and soon after my arrival I set out on a canvass of schools. The Board of Education had already expressed its desire to give co-operation, so it was a question of gaining the interest of principals, etc. In all cases I met with ready response so that it seems possible that soon every school in Toledo can have a Scout troop. I held meetings at several of the schools for girls interested in the work and had an enthusiastic roomful every time. Where it was possible, troops were started immediately for work during the summer. In other cases circumstances made it seem best to wait till fall to get the work under way."

Miss Cora Nelson's report for June contains an interesting account of the Intensive Course in Scouting given in Washington:

"This course was given under the direction of the Washington Council for their Captains; an average of sixteen attended daily. The group consisted principally of new captains and a few who wished to become captains. Two Congressmen's wives never missed a meeting. Mrs. Coleman, Local Director in Washington, was very successful in securing men and women from various Departments of the Government to lecture and demonstrate. One day was de-

voted to work in the open. The students were taken in automobiles to the National Service School in Georgetown. There instruction was given in building a lean-to, a latrine and an incinerator.

The Surgeon General appointed a Corporal to give daily instruction in signaling. An iceless refrigerator and fireless cooker were made, an illustrated talk on Nature Study was given and the Opening Program for a Scout Meeting put into daily use with the students. The women who attended seemed greatly pleased with the course because, as they expressed it, they learned so much about directing a troop that was not in the Handbook."

Miss Cora Neal spent the early part of June at the Blue Ridge Y. W. C. A. conference. She was given opportunity to present the work of the Girl Scouts and to describe the way in which the Girl Scout organization could co-operate with the Y. W. C. A.

Miss Neal has been extremely occupied with the establishing of the Southern Girl Scout Camp near Hendersonville. This camp is beautifully situated in the Blue Ridge Mountains. The farm on which it is located is the property of Mrs. R. M. Oates.

## OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following correspondence explains itself. The decision will be of great importance to all Girl Scout troops contemplating entertainments:

June 22, 1918.

Treasury Department,  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

National Headquarters Girl Scouts would very much like to have a decision in regard to whether the proceeds of Girl Scout entertainments given for the purpose of raising money to purchase their uniforms are subject to a tax. Will you also kindly let us know whether tickets sold for these entertainments are subject to a war tax? While we are not classed as an organization devoting its energies exclusively to war work, nevertheless the vast majority of our girls are working along war lines. Our approximate membership is now 26,000. We enclose herewith a copy of the requirements on which we award our War Service Badge.

May we have the favor of an early reply?

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) KATHERINE BOWMAN,  
Secretary, Field Department.

July 3, 1918.

Miss Katherine Bowman,  
National Headquarters Girl Scouts,  
527 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, N. Y.

Madam:

Replying to your letter of June 22nd, you are advised the tax imposed in Section 700 of the War Revenue Act, approved October 3, 1918, does not apply to entertainments given by the Girl Scouts, as it has been ruled by the Department that said organization is a purely educational institution within the meaning of said Section.

Respectfully,

(Signed) B. C. KEITH,  
Deputy Commissioner.

## ABOUT THE CONVENTION

Don't forget that the big annual convention of the National Council of Girl Scouts is coming this fall. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 24, 25 and 26, is the time, and the place is Philadelphia. While the voting power is limited to delegates from registered councils, the Executive Board has extended an invitation to all Captains and leaders in Girl Scout work to attend the conference, at which policies important in the development of the movement will be formulated.

In the September RALLY there will be a more detailed program of the convention.

It is hoped that every Girl Scout Council in the United States is bearing in mind that part of the Constitution which reads:

"Section I., Clause I: Each chartered council of the Girl Scouts shall have the right to elect annually one of its members as a member of the National Council of the Girl Scouts, and one additional member for every 200 girls enrolled according to the records of the National Council, who shall serve during the period for which charter has been granted to the Local Council. Local Councils shall certify as to the election of members of the National Council on blanks which shall be provided for that purpose."

If there are any councils that are taking out new charters; if there are any councils who have not yet elected their delegates, it is suggested that they hasten matters as much as possible, in order that every council may have adequate authorized representation at the Convention.

The proper way to send in War Service Award records is on blanks especially designed for this purpose. These will be furnished by National Headquarters on request.

# 25c. STARTS YOU.....

---

**Y**OU may not be able to go to the front, or take some Government job connected with the war, or give your time to the Red Cross, or to the many activities which are going on all around you.

War Savings Stamps are a direct loan to Uncle Sam. Nothing can lessen their value. They're always at par. They pay you well, though that isn't half so important to you as what money does for our soldiers "Over There." Back them up. Keep food going to them. Keep their clips full of cartridges. And shoes on their feet,

Just go out and get yourself a 25 cent Thrift Stamp, attached to a Thrift Card, and start saving to win the war.

Get at least one Thrift Stamp **TODAY.**

---

## Khaki Land for Girls

Complete outfits of Girl Scout suits and accessories, including: Blouses, skirts, middies, bloomers and coats; junior middies and bloomers, felt hats, khaki hats, Girl Scout handkerchiefs with emblem, black neckerchiefs, canteens, whistles, belts, manila rope and camping accessories.

---

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*National Official Outfitter for Girl Scouts*

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Chrome, N. J.

South Amboy, N. J.  
Elizabeth, N. J.

Carteret, N. J.



